Shortage of cattle feeds and fodder

4166. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 737 given in the Rajya Sabha on 31st July, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per N.C.A. and various other experts and reports such as Jha Committee and EEC Report in December, 1986, there is acute shortage of cattle feeds and fodder in the country and if so, the reasons for not stopping their exports specially in view of recurrent droughts; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that National Dairy Development Board, has circulated a pamphlet in January, 1986 through Brusells Embassy of India claiming that India is surplus in cattle feeds and if so, the action taken against those responsible for such patently wrong information which has been subject of ridicule and comment in Europe?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The export policy of animal feeds is restricted and exports are allowed within limited ceilings. However, a proposal has been mooted to stop the export of cattle feeds in view of the existing drought conditions.

(b) The National Dairy Development Board has not circulated such pamphlet.

State Ministers' conference on 15 Point Programme on Minorities

4167. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report submitted by the Ministry to the Conference of State Ministers in charge of 15 point Programme on Minorities revealed that some of the District Magistrates in the State of Uttar Pradesh were ignorant of this programme and if so, the remedial measures suggested by the Conference; and

(b) whether certain clarifications have been sought by some State Governments regarding the interpretation of this programme pertaining to the use of "Special Consideration" to the minorities and what is the reaction of the Central Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) In the Statewise position of implementation of 15-Point Programme given in Annexure IV of the Agenda & Notes for the Conference of State Ministers it is mentioned with reference to Uttar Pradesh that "Some of the District Collectorates were found unaware of the existence of the Programme in December, 1986". The Conference suggested that special stress be laid on orientation training of officers on 15-Point Programme at various levels and agreed that such training would be built in various services training courses or training at the begining of the service.

(b) Yes, Sir. The State Government has been requested to issue appropriate instructions for making the selection Committees representative by including a minority member and the State Government has agreed to take appropriate action in the matter.

Increase in prices of imported edible oils

4168. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have increased the prices of the imported edible oil and if so, the extent thereof;

(b) what could be its likely impact on the prices of vanaspati; and

(c) the reasons for the hike in the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The issue price of imported edible oils for supply to Vanaspati industry has been increased from Rs. 11,500/- per M.T. to Rs. 15,000/- PMT.